

4320 Detection

June 11, 1981

Detection Report Reply

James Schuler, DR
Sheffield District
Allegheny NF

We received the sample of Thuja occidentalis foliage and have determined the damage to be Arborvitae leaf blight caused by Didymascella thujina. The fungus is native to North America and often causes severe damage in seedlings and small shrubs. Older trees do not die but appear scorched, especially the lower leaves, which are also occasionally cast. A close inspection of recently affected leaves will reveal small brown spots which are the fungus fruiting bodies. After spores are discharged in the summer, the fruiting bodies drop out leaving small pits or "shot holes" in the leaves.

Bordeaux Mixture, prepared from copper sulfate and lime, applied several times during the summer and fall is effective in controlling the disease. Usually damage in larger trees is not severe enough to warrant control activities.

Thank you for keeping us informed of pest conditions on your District.



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Plant Pathologist
Forest Pest Management

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